

W

Rev. Thos A. Phelps

Boston
Mass



of my use for Nap. to look to my
penurious aid at present. It is im-
possible. More likely we shall have
to throw ourselves on Massachusetts.

I think you had better reprint the
"Napoleonic" paragraph. The first
step is now history. Was there ever
an overthrow so complete? Prairie
to God for the Convention at London.

Bailey is coming over as fast as
he can with Devery. Blanchard
will do better than he promises.
I have an urgent invitation to
this, Sept. 1. & with I shall go.
I write - Yours Gerritt

Office of the American Anti-Slavery Society,

NEW-YORK,

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To the Officers and Members of the

The Executive Committee of the American Anti-Slavery Society are desirous of co-operating systematically with the auxiliary societies. They believe that heretofore too little correspondence has taken place between them, and thus the efforts of each have been crippled. It seems hardly possible, that if the Executive Committee of this Society and the auxiliaries hereafter maintain a system of operations in concert, far greater results than heretofore will not ensue. It is by the efficient and ready co-operation of its auxiliaries, that this Society hopes to carry forward the arduous work it has undertaken. Alone, it can do little; but with their aid, and the blessing of God, it can do much.

At the annual meeting in May, more than one thousand auxiliary societies were reported—embodying, probably, not less than 100,000 members. They comprise men and women of all denominations, holding different political opinions, spreading over a wide extent of country, exerting a strong influence upon the habits, literature, politics, and religion of the nation. Add to these 100,000 more, who embrace our views fully, but who are not nominally members of Anti-Slavery societies; and we have a strong array of moral power enlisted in support of our glorious cause. By their united, systematic, and untiring action, we may speedily arouse the nation to the enormous evils and dangerous tendency of slavery, and combine a moral sentiment that soon will accomplish its complete overthrow. To ensure this, we regard it as imperatively necessary that we act upon the principle that "UNION IS STRENGTH."

With these views, the Committee affectionately and earnestly recommend the following plan of operations to the auxiliary societies:—

1. That each auxiliary endeavor to procure some competent person to deliver a course of lectures on the subject of slavery, in the town where it is located.

2. That they should hold regular meetings as often as once in three months. We trust they will not wait for the agents of the Parent Society to deliver these lectures and addresses, but will secure the services of some suitable person not an agent. It is utterly impossible for our agents to visit all sections of the country. There are hundreds of able ministers and laymen who may be pressed into the service as occasional lecturers, by the local societies.

3. That at these stated meetings efficient measures be taken to add members to the society, to procure subscriptions to Anti-Slavery periodicals, and to collect funds.

4. That the auxiliaries engage to take a specified number of Anti-Slavery publications for gratuitous distribution, and send for regular supplies from the Society's office in New-York.

5. That they adopt a plan for the raising of funds, by whichever professed friends of the cause shall be called upon to contribute to the Parent Society. This society is the channel through which much of the effort for the removal of slavery will flow. In no way can its constant expenditures be sustained, but by liberal contributions from its auxiliaries. There are many Anti-Slavery societies, which have never yet paid a cent into the treasury of this society. Without prompt pecuniary assistance, this society must recall its agents, and suspend its publications, at the very time when the crisis demands a treble expenditure of effort.

6. That they cause to be circulated immediately and thoroughly, in their respective towns and counties, petitions to Congress, the State Legislatures, and to the various ecclesiastical bodies, and seek to exert such an influence upon their members of Congress, and of the State Legislatures, and their clergy of all denominations, as will secure their advocacy of Anti-Slavery measures in their respective bodies.

7. That they promote the improvement and elevation of the free people of color among them, by getting them into schools, mechanics' shops, merchants' stores, &c. &c. Our friends in the country can do much in this way, to improve the condition of our colored brethren.

8. That the state auxiliaries should aim to have an auxiliary society formed in every county, and that the county societies see that auxiliaries are organized in every town or village. And that reports go up quarterly from each town or village society to the county society, and from each county to the state society.

9. That each auxiliary society make a concise report, at least one each year, to this Committee, stating the name of its officers, with their P. O. address, the number of members, the accessions of the past year, the distributions of publications, funds collected, &c. &c.

This report should be made during the month of April, so that it may be laid before the Committee previous to the annual meeting in May. *We solicit your earnest attention to this request.*

10. That each society endeavor to send one or more delegates to the annual meeting of the Parent Society; and that such delegation be instructed to pledge, on behalf of the society, a certain sum of money to the Parent Society, to be paid at such time as shall be stipulated.

11. That each auxiliary (which esteems it a duty to have stated meetings for prayer) establish and maintain the monthly concert of prayer for the enslaved and free people of color.

12. That they solicit each minister of the Gospel in their respective towns, who is an abolitionist, to deliver a thorough course of lectures to his congregation on the subject of slavery, and to introduce it frequently into his sermons and prayers.

13. That they endeavor to procure the passage of resolutions in each of the religious societies in their town or county, declaring slavery to be a sin, which should be IMMEDIATELY abandoned.

Earnestly entreating your immediate and efficient co-operation, we remain yours, in the cause of humanity,



CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

Joshua Leavitt

Mass. July 20 '40

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Dear Dr. Phelps

I hope you will not mind
about completing your commun-
ations. It is of great importance
to set up men who will stand, and
now you will be glad to elect next
year or the year after. I have
an article ready that the Abol. is
entitled an at once control the
government of the State & secure
absolutely all their enemies. I
will publish it next week. I shew
what you say about the desecration of my
letter, &c. but had overlooked it. With
regard to Holley's paper, I think it
foolish that we can sustain
any increase of papers at present.
G. Smith and the Massachussets
any, & probably not next year, as
completely is he hampered, as I
have understood. Nor do I believe it is